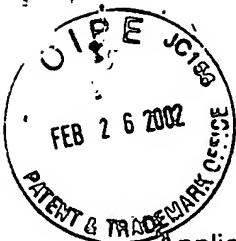


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4-22-02

Atty. Dkt. No. 056066-2026



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Friedhelm Steinhilber

Title: LIBRARY FOR A DATA STORAGE  
TAPE CARTRIDGES

Appl. No.: 10/005,343

Filing Date: 11/09/2001

Examiner:

Art Unit: 2651

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<p><b>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</b></p> <p>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date below.</p> <p><u>BERNARD L. KLEINKE</u> (Printed Name)</p> <p><u>Bernard L. Kleinke</u> (Signature)</p> <p><u>2-7-2002</u> (Date of Deposit)</p>
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

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Technology Center 2600

Commissioner for Patents  
Box BOX IDS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.



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**TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), within three (3) months of the filing date of the application.

**RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT**

Any document listed on the attached PTO-1449 was cited as being relevant during the prosecution of the corresponding German priority application. Copies of the prior art materials from the German search report are attached. An English language translation of an abstract of Japanese Patent Application No. 05225666 A is enclosed herewith. The absence of a translation or an English-language counterpart document does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider any submitted document (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §609).

Applicant respectfully requests that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0872. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 50-0872.

Respectfully submitted,

Date Feb. 7, 2002

By Bernard L. Kleinke

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Form PTO-1449  
(MODIFIED)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

056066-2026

SERIAL NO.

10/005,343

APPLICANT

Friedhelm Steinhilber

FILING DATE

11/08/2001

GROUP ART UNIT

2651

(Use several sheets if necessary)

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	A1	5236258	08-17-93	Bunch	312	9.31	
	A2	5469310	11-21-95	Slocum et al	360	92	
	A3	5588796	12-31-96	Ricco et al	414	741	
	A4	4063294	12-13-77	Burkhart	360	92	

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	A5	EP 1045382 A2	10-10-00	Europe	G11B15	68		
	A6	05225666 A	03-09-93	Japan	G11B15	68	X	

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)


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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\* EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include any copy of this form with next communication to applicant.